

**PRE-TREATMENT OF HYDROCARBON FEED PRIOR TO OXIDATIVE  
DESULFURIZATION**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[57] Embodiments of the invention provide a process for selectively removing 5 polyene compounds from a hydrocarbon stream. The process comprises the steps of contacting the polyene compounds with sulfuric acid at ambient temperature and sufficient time to form two phases. The phases consist of a hydrocarbon phase with substantially no loss in octane number and a spent acid phase. The hydrocarbon phase can then be sent to an optimized desulfurization process.